1	2	3	4	5
9.	Historical & Archaeological work of Parsis/ Zoarastrian Religious Places of Importance in Western India with Special reference to Barat Cave	Dr. Mani Kamerkar, Retired Professor of History Modern South Asia, Social History former Fellow of International Centre for Asian Studies Hongkong Vice President, Asiatic society.	6.42	3.05

Financial crisis in railways

*292. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:
SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are facing huge financial crisis and as a consequence, large number of schemes are likely to be kept pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have sought the help of State Governments for expeditious completion of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response received from State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. It is true that the finances of the Railways are passing through a difficult phase. However financing is being done from the available resources of all projects cleared for execution. While no projects have been pending on account of financial constraints, the progress of the on-going projects will depend on availability of funds in the coming years.

(b) Some of the reasons on account of which IR is facing financial, difficulties are the following:

(i) Declining Budgetary support resulting in progressively increasing market borrowing and debt servicing liability.

(ii) Steep increase in staff costs consequent to Fifth Pay Commission as well as rising fuel costs.

(iii) Losses on passenger services.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. State Governments have been requested to participate in Railway projects in their respective states. Governments of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal are already sharing cost of some of the Railway projects or have reached agreement with the Railways for financial participation in identified rail projects. Governments of Jharkhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Gujarat have expressed interest in Financial Participation in Railway Projects in their states.

Cess on students going abroad

*293. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minster of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money which has been invested by Government of India and the State Governments on computer professionals and other professionals who leave the country every year; and

(b) whether Government of India have any plans to impose cess on students going abroad, soon after completing their studies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Investments made by the Government of India and the State Governments on computer professionals and other professionals would depend on the type of professional course and institution attended by them, and duration of the course thereof. Since, no statistics of professionals going abroad is maintained centrally, an assessment of the investments by the Central and the State Governments on them can also not be made.

(b) Presently Government of India has no proposal to impose a cess on students going abroad.